V. REMARKS

Entry of the Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 because the Amendment: a) places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; b) does not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration because the Amendment amplifies issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; and c) places the application in better form for appeal, should an Appeal be necessary. The Amendment is necessary and was not earlier presented because it is made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. The amendments to the subject claims do not incorporate any new subject matter into the claims. Thus, entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as indefinite for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claimed the subject matter of the invention. (1) The Examiner states that the term "moving velocity" cannot be understood from the specification.

In the Examiner's understanding as to claim 1:

i) First and second displays are included in claim 1.

ii) The Examiner understands further that the moving velocity of game information differs between a first and second display when information moves between the first display area and the second display area. Within that meaning, the first area of Loose et al. is the rotating wheels. The second area is the transmissive video display.

In this regard, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner apparently confuses the "first display device" and the "second display device", and the "first display area" and the "second display area". In fact, the Examiner estimates that in Loose et al. the first display area corresponds to wheels and the second display area corresponds to a video display.

It is respectfully submitted that the understanding of the Examiner is incorrect since he does not appear to understand the claim wording accurately.

In reality, the "first display device" in claim 1 corresponds to "reels" and the "second display device" in claim 1 corresponds to a "liquid crystal display". The "first display area" and the "second display area" are provided in a liquid crystal display. The "first display area" means symbol display windows and the "second display area" means an effect display area other than the symbol display windows.

However, claim 1 refers to these matters merely as the "first display area" and the "second display area", of which contents as described above are not clearly explained. This may lead the Examiner to misunderstand the first display area as the wheels and the second display area as the video display. In such misunderstanding, game information displayed on the wheels may be considered to move faster than the game information displayed on the video display. In addition, game information literally includes all the information on a game, which may lead to this misunderstanding.

In view of the circumstances described above, with regard to the "first display area", the "second display area" and the "game information", Applicants believe that the claims are now clarified in order to overcome the rejection under U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

More specifically, claim 1 is amended based on the following:

i) A first display device includes a plurality of reels on each of which symbols are formed.

ii) A second display device is constructed from a liquid crystal display device.

iii) A first display area is amended as a symbol display area and a second display area as an effect display area.

Similar to claim 1, claim 12 is amended based on the following:

i) A first display device includes a plurality of reels on each of which symbols are formed.

ii) A second display device is constructed from a liquid crystal display device.

iii) A first display area is amended as a symbol display area and a second display area as an effect display area.

By these amendments, the rejection under U.S.C. 112 is now overcome.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 USC 102 (e) as being anticipated by Loose et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,517,433). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Relating to the third wherein clause of claim 1, Loose et al. describes in column 2, lines 27 to 35 "The video display provides a video image 18 occupying the display area 16 and superimposed in the reels 12a, 12b, 12c. The video image 18 may be interactive with the reels 12a, 12b, 12c, may be static or dynamic, and may include such graphics as payout values, a pay table, pay lines, bonus game feature, special effects, thematic scenery, and instructions information".

The description is deemed to suggest that game information moves between the video image and the reels 12a, 12b and 12c, since the video image 18 may be interactive with the reels and may be dynamic.

More precisely, Loose et al. describes in column 5, lines 2 to 11 and Figs. 9a to 9c, "In addition, referring to Figs. 9a -c, in response to a predetermined random or non-random event, the video image 18 may depict an animation in which a video indicator 29 is moved form a periphery of the display area (e.g., a corner of the display area away from the mechanical reels) to one or more of the symbols on the

reels. The moving indicator 29 may identify the reel symbols to which it moves as a special symbol to be evaluated as, for example, a wild symbol or a scatter pay symbol".

From the description, the video indicator 29 (game information) moves from the area other than the display windows on the LCD moves to the area of the display windows.

On the other hand, the third wherein clause of claim 1 discloses that a moving velocity of game information differs between in a case that the game information is displayed on the first display area and in a case that the game information is displayed on the second display area, which is not disclose or suggested in Loose et al. Therefore, the "first display area", the "second display area" and the "game information" are now clarified. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable over Loose et al. because Loose et al. fails to teach each and every element of claim 1 as discussed above.

Claim 12 is equivalent to the constitution of claim 1, to which an additional feature is incorporated with the fourth wherein clause.

In the fourth wherein clause of claim 12, there is described that a moving velocity of the game information in the first display area is faster than the moving velocity of the game information in the second display area. This feature is not disclosed or suggested in Loose et al., as discussed above.

Therefore, as is the case with claim 1, the "first display area", the "second display area" and the "game information" are now clarified and it is respectfully submitted that claim 12 is allowable over Loose et al. because Loose et al. fails to teach each and every element of claim 12 as mentioned above.

As mentioned above, claim 1 is amended based on the following:

i) A first display device includes a plurality of reels on each of which symbols are formed.

ii) A second display device is constructed from a liquid crystal display device.

iii) A first display area is amended as a symbol display area and a second display area as an effect display area.

Loose et al. does not disclose or suggest that, when game information moves between the symbol display area and the effect display area, the moving velocity of the game information differs between in a case where the game information is displayed on the symbol display area and in a case where the game information is displayed on the effect display area. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that currently-amended claim 1 is allowable over Loose et al.

Similar to claim 1, claim 12 is amended based on the following:

i) A first display device includes a plurality of reels on each of which symbols are formed.

ii) A second display device is constructed from a liquid crystal display device.

iii) A first display area is amended as a symbol display area and a second display area as an effect display area.

Loose et al. does not disclose or suggest that, when game information moves between the symbol display area and the effect display area, the moving velocity of the game information differs between in a case where the game information is displayed on the symbol display area and in a case where the game information is displayed on the effect display area. It is also not disclosed or suggested in Loose et al. that the moving velocity of the game information in the symbol display area is faster than the moving velocity of the game information in the effect display area.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that currently-amended claim 12 is allowable over Loose et al.

Claims 3 and 5-11 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite. For instance, claim 5 recites that the display mode of the game information is a mode in which a stop display time of the game information in the first display area is shorter than the stop display time thereof in the second display area. Claim 6 recites that a person concerning with the game is able to operate the gaming machine so as to change the display mode. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claims 5 and 6 are allowable over the applied art.

Claims 2 and 4 are canceled and, as a result, the rejection as applied thereto is now moot.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 9 and 11 are rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Loose. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 9 and 11 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Newly-added claims 13 and 14 also include features not shown in the applied art. For instance, in claim 13, there is disclosed that a winning message of the game is displayed so as to move between the symbol display area and the effect display area and a moving velocity of the winning message is faster in the symbol display area than the moving velocity of the winning message in the effect display area.

This feature is not at all disclosed or suggested in Loose et al.

In claim 14, there is disclosed the game information that moves on the second display device at a first moving velocity or a second moving velocity being different from the first moving velocity such that the game information is moving and being displayed only on the first display area or only on the second display area or simultaneously on both the first and second display areas with the first moving velocity of the game information in the first display area being faster than the second moving velocity of the game information in the second display area.

Further, Applicants assert that there are also reasons other than those set forth above why the pending claims are patentable. Applicants hereby reserve the right to submit those other reasons and to argue for the patentability of claims not explicitly addressed herein in future papers.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same,

the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 6, 2007

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Petition for Extension of Time (two months)

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